

REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS ON THE CULTURAL AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY FUND

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ON THE CULTURAL SITUATION IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF CULTURAL AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE SEVENTEENTH ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

The Committee of Cultural and Social Affairs of the Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers met in Amman from 4 to 5 Sha'ban 1408 H (22-23 March 1988) to examine the items related to Cultural and Social Affairs in the Draft Agenda of the Conference and to prepare the draft resolutions on the cultural and social items to be submitted for approval to the Plenary Session of the Conference.

H.E. Hussein Hammami, Ambassador at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan chaired the meeting. In a short address, he expressed his warm welcome to the delegations participating in the Committee and wished it success in its deliberations.

The following States were elected to the membership of the Bureau of the Committee: Malaysia, the Republic of Senegal, Palestine, Vice-Chairman, the Kingdom of Morocco, Rapporteur.

The General Secretariat was represented by H.E. Mr. Cherif Mohamed Lamin Haidara, the Assistant Secretary General for Cultural and Social Affairs and the Islamic Solidarity Fund. The draft agenda submitted to the Committee included the following items:-

Item (36) - Islamic Universities:

- (A)Islamic University in Niger.
- (B)Islamic University in Uganda.
- (C)International Islamic University in Malaysia.
- (D)Islamic University in Bangladesh.

Item (37)- Islamic Cultural Institutes- and Centres:

- (A) King Faisal Mosque and its affiliated Educational and Cultural Institutions in N'Djamena, Chad.
- (B) Regional Institute of Islamic Studies and Research in Timbuctu, Mali.
- (C) Regional Institute for Complementary Education in Islamabad, Pakistan.
- (D) Islamic Centre in Guinea-Bissau.
- (E) Islamic Cultural Centre in Moroni, Republic of Comoros.
- (F) Islamic Women's Organization.

Item (38) - OIC. Cultural and Social Subsidiary and Affiliated Organs and Institutions:

- (A) Research Centre for Islamic History, Arts and Culture, Istanbul.
- (B) International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage.
- (C) Islamic Fiqh Academy, Jeddah.
- (D) Islamic States Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Rabat.
- (E) Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation, Riyadh.
- (F) The Islamic Committee of the International Crescent, Benghazi.

Item (39) The United Hejira Calendar for the Beginnings of Lunar Months and the Unification of Islamic Festivals.

Item (40) Control of Narcotics and Drug Abuse.

Item (41) The Islamic Solidarity Fund and its Waqf.

Item (42) The Establishment of an Islamic Centre for Advanced Medical Training and Research in Bangladesh.

The delegates and heads of the OIC subsidiary organs and affiliated bodies participated in the deliberations of the committee.

The members of the committee examined each item on the agenda separately, after hearing the explanations of each item, submitted by the General Secretariat and the heads of the OIC Cultural and Social organs.

The committee then reviewed the annual report on the financial situation of the Islamic Solidarity Fund and its Waqf. The Committee heard with great interest the useful expose of Mr. Yousef Mohamad Saleh Al-Awadi, Chairman of the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund, who spoke extensively about the financial difficulties faced by the Fund whose resources have dried up and as a result, the Fund's ability to finance its budget and implement its programmes during the last three years has been negatively affected.

In accordance with the approval of the Conference Chairman, the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran submitted a brief working paper containing a proposal for requesting the OIC cultural institutions and centres to submit, in coordination with the General Secretariat, a general report on the cultural situation in the Islamic world. The contents of the working paper were examined and the Committee approved a draft resolution on that matter. In respect of the Islamic Women's Organization, the Committee took note of the recommendation of the Thirteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs, calling for further consultations among the Member States with regard to

the idea of establishing that Organization and entrusting the General Secretariat with the task of submitting a note on that matter to the Fourteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs.

With regard to the item concerning the project for the establishment of an Islamic Centre for Advanced Medical Training and Research submitted by Bangladesh, the Committee stressed the importance of that project and its great usefulness to the health sector in Islamic States. The Committee entrusted the General Secretariat with the task of pursuing its contacts with Member States, in order to elicit their views and comments on the relevant note circulated to them.

The Committee also recommended that in case the ban on setting up new institutions is lifted, the project should be given due attention and priority. A spirit of Islamic brotherhood and total solidarity prevailed throughout the deliberations and discussions in the meetings of the Committee which greatly contributed to the smooth running of the Committee's work.

At the conclusion of its working sessions, the Committee approved the draft resolutions appended to the present report.

At the end of the Committee's meeting, His Excellency the delegate of the Yemen Arab Republic took the floor to express the appreciation of the members of the Committee to His Excellency Ambassador Hussein Hammami, the Chairman of the Committee, for the wisdom, high competence and skill with which he conducted the proceedings. His Excellency the Chairman then expressed his warmest thanks to all the members of the Committee for the atmosphere of fraternity that prevailed during the meetings, and their sound understanding of the subjects studied and discussed, thus contributing to the successful completion of the Committee's work within the allotted time.

The Committee further expressed its deep appreciation of the serious work carried out by the General Secretariat in preparing the documents and submitting them to it and making a valuable contribution to its work.

RESOLUTIONS ON CULTURAL AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

RESOLUTION NO. 1/17-C

ON THE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN NIGER

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban, 1408H (21-25 March, 1988),

Recalling previous Islamic resolutions, in particular those of the 3rd and 4th Islamic Summit Conferences on the Islamic University in Niger, reaffirming the resolution of the Sixteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Fez (Kingdom of Morocco);

Noting with satisfaction the efforts made by the Government of Niger, the OIC General Secretariat and the Board of Trustees to ensure the normal start of the first academic year;

Having taken cognizance of the explanatory note submitted by the General Secretariat on the present situation of the Islamic University in Niger;

Conscious of the financial, academic and administrative difficulties facing this University;

Reiterating the importance of the Islamic University in Niger for the propagation of Islamic culture and Arabic language in West Africa;

1. Urges Member States and the General Secretariat to lend material support and contribute in the annual operating budget of the Islamic University in Niger.
2. Commissions the General Secretariat and the Board of Trustees to study the possibility of establishing a Polytechnic Faculty in coordination with the Government of Niger.
3. Requests the Islamic Development Bank to provide financial support for the completion of the remaining allotments of the project.
4. Commissions the Board of Trustees of the University to seek the resolution of the problems facing the University, and extends its thanks to the Chairman and all the members of the Board of Trustees for the praise-worthy results they have achieved.
5. Extends its thanks to the General Secretariat and the Islamic Solidarity Fund for their material and moral support.

RESOLUTION NO. 2/17-C

ON THE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN UGANDA

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban, 1408H(21-25 March, 1988),

Recalling the various resolutions adopted by the Islamic Summit and Ministerial Conferences, particularly Resolution No. 2/16-C of the Sixteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the Islamic University project in Uganda;

Noting the signing of the Agreement on the establishment, status and immunity of the Islamic University in Uganda, between the Government of Uganda and the OIC;

Expresses its appreciation for the determination of the Republic of Uganda to pursue the implementation of the project;

Further expresses its satisfaction at the efforts made by the OIC-Uganda Joint Committee for starting the courses at the University;

1. Requests the General Secretariat to complete the study to assess what could practically be achieved with the funds available to the University and determine the minimum requirements needed to achieve the goals and objectives of this project.

2. Calls upon the OIC-Uganda Joint Committee to pursue their cooperation and coordination with a view to enabling the University to carry out its functions, in accordance with its statutes and Headquarters Agreement concluded between the Government of Uganda and the OIC.

3. Appeals to the Member States and General Secretariat to endeavour to provide material assistance as a contribution to the annual budget for the functioning of the Islamic University in Uganda.

RESOLUTION NO. 3/17-C

ON THE INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN MALAYSIA

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Shaban 1408H (21-25 March, 1988),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference, the Fourteenth, the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers on the International Islamic University in Malaysia;

Taking note of the recommendations adopted by the Thirteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Taking into consideration the continued progress made by this University;
Expresses appreciation to the Government of Malaysia for continued financial and other support;

Also express appreciation to the Member States which have extended moral and material assistance to the University;

1. Requests the General Secretariat, all OIC Organs and Member States to further contribute to the progress and development of the International Islamic University in Malaysia to sustain its operational capacity and enable to become fully operational.

2. Urges all Member States, which have not yet concluded Agreements of Co-sponsorship of this University, within the context of their bilateral cooperation with Malaysia, to do so at an early date.

3. Requests all Member States and Islamic Solidarity Fund to contribute to the maximum extent possible to this Institution by providing material support, curricula, sending teachers and granting scholarships for the students of this Institution to enable them to pursue studies in this University.

RESOLUTION NO. 4/17-C ON THE

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY IN BANGLADESH

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban 1408H (21-25 March 1988),

Recalling the various resolutions adopted by Islamic Summits and Ministerial Conferences on the Islamic University in Bangladesh;

Taking note of the recommendations of the Thirteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Appreciating the steps taken by the People's Republic of Bangladesh to establish the University;

Considering the progress so far achieved for the establishment of this University, completing other required works;

1. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States and Islamic Institutions which have extended assistance to the University project.
2. Urges all Member States to provide adequate technical assistance and donations to the University so it may achieve its targeted objectives.
3. Requests A the General Secretariat to pursue its contacts with the People's Republic of Bangladesh and follow-up the implementation of the project.
4. Directs the General Secretariat to seek technical aid from Islamic and Arab Universities through the secondment of academic cadres and the provision of scholarships and books.

RESOLUTION NO. 5/17-C

ON KING FAISAL MOSQUE IN NDJAMENA, CHAD

The Seventeen Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban, 140811 (21-25 March, 1988),

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference, the Fifteenth and the Sixteenth Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers on the King Faisal Mosque in Ndjamen, Republic of Chad;

Taking note of the recommendations of the Thirteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having considered the explanatory note submitted by the General Secretariat.

1. Reiterates that in view of the pressing need of the population for the educational and social services provided by this Islamic institution, the King Faisal Mosque must be considered one of the Islamic educational institutions that require special attention on the part of the organization of the Islamic Conference.

2. Requests again the Government of the Republic of Chad and the General Secretariat to prepare the technical study needed to repair the mosque and its out-buildings, and communicate to Member States.

3. Calls upon all Member States to raise the funds needed to repair and equip the Mosque and its out-buildings.

4. Requests all Member States to contribute to the maximum extent possible to this Institution by providing curricula, seconding teachers and granting scholarships for the graduates of this Institution to enable them to pursue their university studies.

RESOLUTION NO. 6/17-C

ON THE REGIONAL INSTITUTE OF ISLAMIC STUDIES AND RESEARCH IN TIMBUKTU. MALI

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban 1408H (21-25 March, 1988),

Recalling the various resolutions adopted by the Fifth Islamic Summit and the Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers, particularly Resolution No.7/16-C of the Sixteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the Regional Institute of Islamic Studies and Research in Timbuktu;

Having taken note of the recommendations adopted by the Thirteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having considered the explanatory note prepared by the General Secretariat;

Commends the efforts made by the Government of the Republic of Mali and the General Secretariat for implementing the project;

1. Appeals to all Member States, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and other Islamic Institutions to continue to provide material support to the Regional Institute of Islamic Studies and Research in Timbuktu to enable achievement of the objectives;

2. Requests those Member States which have technical facilities for training in the fields of manuscripts maintenance and restoration, to extend scholarships to the Institute to enable development of required expertise

3. Exhorts the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture to pay more attention to the Institute and to extend technical assistance to its staff so as to facilitate utilization of the wealth of Islamic manuscripts already in its possession and also further acquisitions.

RESOLUTION NO. 7/17-C

ON THE REGIONAL INSTITUTE FOR COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION (RICE) IN ISLAMABAD

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'aban 1408H (21-25 March 1988),
Recalling previous resolutions adopted by the Islamic Conference on the teaching of Arabic Language and the spread of Islamic Culture;

Considering that the Sixteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers had reiterated the promotion and dissemination of the Arabic language and Islamic culture in non-Arabic speaking countries of Asia, and early establishment of the Regional Institute for Complementary Education (RICE) in Pakistan;

Further considering that the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference had reaffirmed importance of the establishment of this Institute;

Taking note of the recommendations of the Thirteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Keeping in view the explanatory note prepared by the General Secretariat;

1. Reiterates the necessity of establishing the Regional Institute for Complementary Education (RICE) in Islamabad, Pakistan, and of disseminating and promoting the Arabic Language and Islamic culture in non-Arabic speaking countries of Asia.
2. Expresses appreciation for the efforts made by the Government of Pakistan for establishment of this Institute.
3. Appeals to Member States, the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the World Federation of International Arabic Islamic Schools to contribute generously towards this project.
4. Entrusts the General Secretariat with following up the implementation of this project and submit a report thereon to the Eighteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION NO. 8/I7-C

ON THE ISLAMIC CENTRE IN GUINEA-BISSAU

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban 1408H (21-25 March, 1988),

Recalling the resolution of the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference and resolution No.9/16-C adopted by the Sixteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the Islamic Centre in Guinea-Bissau;

Considering the recommendations of the Thirteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having taken note of the explanatory note submitted by the General Secretariat on the Centre;

1. Requests the Government of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau and the General Secretariat to continue their coordination with a view to speeding up implementation of the project taking into consideration the priority accorded to construction of the two mosques, within limits of the material resources currently available.

2. Expresses sincere thanks and deep appreciation to the Member states and Islamic Institutions which have extended financial assistance to the Centre.

RESOLUTION NO. 9/17-C

ON THE ISLAMIC CULTURAL CENTRE IN MORONI, ISLAMIC FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF COMOROS

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban 1408H (21-25 March, 1988),

Recalling various resolutions adopted by the Conferences of Islamic Summit and Foreign Ministers on the establishment of an Islamic Cultural Centre in Moroni, Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros;

Considering the need of Muslim people in the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros for establishment of such a Centre;

Taking note of the recommendations of the Thirteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having considered the explanatory note submitted by the General Secretariat on the Centre;

1) Requests the General Secretariat to continue coordination with the Government of the Islamic Republic the Comoros with a view to overcome the difficult hindering establishment of the Islamic Cultural Centre Moroni;

2) Expresses its sincere appreciation and thanks to those Member States and Islamic institutions which have extended financial assistance to the Centre;

3) Urges all Member States and the Islamic institutions to extend every possible assistance to this project.

RESOLUTION NO. 10/17-C

ON RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC HISTORY, ART AND CULTURE, ISTANBUL.

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'aban 1408H (21-25 March 1988)

Recalling various resolutions of the Conferences of Islamic Summit and Foreign Ministers, particularly, Resolution No. 19/16-C of the Sixteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture in Istanbul;

Having noted the recommendations of the Thirteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having considered the report submitted by the Director General of the Centre on the Centre's activities and future plans;

1. Commends the efforts of the Centre as represented by its leading achievements.
2. Approved the report which includes the plan of action of the Centre for the current year.
3. Expresses thanks and appreciation to the host country for the material and moral support it has constantly extended to the Centre thus enabling it to satisfactorily perform its tasks.
4. Requests the Member States to pay their contributions regularly in order to enable the Centre to carry out its current plan of action and plan for the future.
5. Calls upon the Member States, institutions and philanthropists from the Muslim world to continue to support the Centre in furnishing and equipping the newly restored building according to the needs and requirements of the Centre and expresses its thanks to those that offered assistance.

RESOLUTION NO. 11/17-C

ON INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF ISLAMIC CULTURAL HERITAGE

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban, 1408H (21-25 March, 1988),

Recalling previous resolutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, particularly Resolution No.20/16-C, adopted by the Sixteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage;
Taking note of the report of the Commission on the Commission's activities and future plans;

1. Commends the Commission for organizing the first competition of "King Fahd Award for Design and Research in Islamic Architecture", and the first "international competition for Calligraphy".
2. Expresses sincere gratitude to His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Bin Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz, Chairman of the Commission, for his continued patronage and guidance to the Commission.
3. Calls upon the Commission to continue cooperation with the Member States for preservation of the Islamic heritage, with a view to collating Member States' efforts in this field.

4. Expresses satisfaction with the full coordination existing between the Commission and the Istanbul Centre as the executive organ of the Commission.

5. Approves the future Plan of Action of Action included in the Commission's report.

6. Calls upon the Commission's Secretariat to organize a training course for specialists in the restoration of manuscripts, in cooperation with the Suleimaniyeh Library in Istanbul, for the benefit of Member States which need such a rare expertise.

RESOLUTION NO. 12/17-C

ON THE ISLAMIC FIQH ACADEMY

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban, 1408H (21-25 March, 1988),

Reaffirming the preoccupations and goals of the IFA which consist in working for the unity of the Islamic Ummah and for closing and reunifying its ranks so as to make it stronger, invulnerable, more firmly committed to its tolerant faith and enlightened by the guidance of Islamic Shariah in facing up to all the challenges and problems that block its way in present-day life. This is to be achieved through sound salutary Ijtihad which traces every matter back to the sources of Shariah, its fundamental origins and along its Ijtihad-itinerary;

Reiterating its support for the system upon which the work of the Academy is based, a system which was defined by the Academy's first Conference in Makkah Al-Mukarramah and has been applied since then by IFA Planning Department to the issues it has studied and the practical arrangements it has laid down to ensure the realization of IFA's goals and purposes;

Expressing its appreciation of the important resolutions which IFA adopted at its second, third and fourth sessions in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, after studying a host of issues and deliberating and discussing the views put forward thereon;

Commending the stands taken by the Academy against subversive movements, and the efforts it is mustering to realize the constructive projects it has undertaken - such as the Comprehensive Collection of Fiah Rules, the Encyclopedia of Economic Affairs and Dealings, and the simplification of Fiqh - with a view to protecting Islam, elucidating its fundamentals and precepts publicizing its rulings, promoting awareness of the guidance and virtue contained therein, and solving the various issues brought before the Academy's Council, which concern the contemporary life of Muslims;

Expressing satisfaction at the excellent and commendable accomplishments reflected in the three issues of the Academy Review and in the symposiums and scholarly meetings which the Academy has organized either jointly with other Islamic Scholarly Institutions, or independently.

1). Urges Member States to support the efforts of the Academy and to extend their due care and sponsorship to its activities so that the Academy may pursue its task in the best possible manner.

2). Calls on the Academy to redouble its scholarly endeavours in cooperation with experts, specialists and researchers, in collaboration with Islamic Scholarly Institutions and Regional Organizations and in coordination in all fields of research and study.

RESOLUTION NO. 13/17-C

ON THE ISLAMIC EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (ISESCO)

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban, 1408H (21-25 March, 1988),

Taking into consideration the progress report submitted by ISESCO on the implementation of the recommendations of the Sixteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and the programmes of ISESCO's three-year Plan of Action (1985-1988);

Recognizing the important role assumed by ISESCO in the educational, scientific and cultural fields throughout the Islamic World;

Proceeding from the resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences and the recommendations of the Second Session of the Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs with respect to ISESCO;

1. Commends the significant accomplishments of ISESCO in the implementation of the resolution No. 22/16-C of the Sixteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and the programmes of ISESCO 's three-year Plan of Action in the educational, scientific and cultural fields.

2. Urges the Member States that have not yet signed the Charter of ISESCO to do so at an early date thereby giving concrete form to Islamic solidarity and support to educational, scientific and cultural work in the Islamic World.

3. Appeals to the Member States of ISESCO that have not paid their contributions to the budget of ISESCO to hasten to discharge such obligations in order to enable ISESCO to implement its programmes and play its role in the best possible way.

4. Encourages ISESCO to join the governing bodies or Boards of Trustees of all Islamic Universities established by the OIC and to extend moral and technical assistance to these institutions.

RESOLUTION NO. 14/17-C

ON THE SPORTS FEDERATION OF ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban, 1408H (21-25 March, 1988),

Recalling the resolutions of the Fourteenth, Fifteenth and Sixteenth Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers, on the establishment of the Sports Federation of Islamic Solidarity Games;

1. Urges all Member States to take active interest in all future activities of the Federation, as well as in the forthcoming Islamic Solidarity Tournaments Games and particularly in organizing its first round, which is to be sponsored by the Federation.

2. Expresses its appreciation and thanks to His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ibn Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz, General President of Youth Welfare in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and President of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation, for his great interest in and care for the Federation and his work for the attainment of its noble objective..

RESOLUTION NO. 15/17-C

ON THE ISLAMIC COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRESCENT, BENGHAZI.

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'aban, 1408H (21-25 March, 1988),

Recalling the previous resolutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, particularly, resolution No. 21/16-C of the Sixteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent;

Considering the report of the Chairman of the Committee on its sixth meeting held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, in Safar, 1408H (September 1987);

Convinced of the important role which should be assumed by the Committee in the humanitarian and relief field;

Appreciating the coordination of the General Secretariat of the OIC and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in signing the Headquarter's Agreement;

Expresses its sincere thanks to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for the material support it has extended and the administrative and logistic facilities it continues to extend to the Committee for establishing the Headquarters in Benghazi;

1. Urges the Member States which have not yet signed the Agreement of the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent to do so as early as possible, so that the Committee start its functions and accomplish its noble aims;

2. Invites all Member States to support the efforts of the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent during its formative phase and provide it with moral and material support.

3. Calls upon Member States and institutions of the Islamic world to consolidate the practical programme for mother and child care within the context of the Muslim family and contribute to the consolidation of the Refugee Assistance Programme, in accordance with its pressing priorities, on a voluntary basis;

4. Urges the Islamic Solidarity Fund to contribute to the financing of the health and social programmes of the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent in the areas of the Islamic world where they are most urgently needed.

5. Requests the endorsement of the report of the Sixth Meeting of the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent.

RESOLUTION NO. 16/17-C

ON THE UNIFIED HEJIRA CALENDAR FOR THE BEGINNING OF LUNAR MONTH AND THE UNIFICATION OF ISLAMIC FESTIVALS

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban 1408H (21-25 March 1988),

Recalling the previous resolutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on the establishment of a unified Hijra Calendar for the beginning of lunar months and for Islamic Festivals;

Taking note of the recommendations of the Thirteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs;

Having examined the explanatory note submitted by the General Secretariat on this subject and the report of the Seventh Session of the Committee on the Unified Hijra Calendar held in Djakarta, Republic of Indonesia, in Dhul Qaida (June 1987);

Commending the steps taken by the General Secretariat with a view to unifying the Hijra Calendar and the Islamic Festivals;

1. Urges all Member States and Islamic institutions to utilize the almanacs prepared by the Committee on the Unified Hijra Calendar as the basis for their calendars.

2-Reminds Member States of the resolutions of previous Islamic Conferences calling for the adoption of Friday as the weekly holidays and for mentioning the Hejri date corresponding to the Gregorian date.

3. Requests all Member States, the General Secretariat and the *Islamic Fiqh Academy* to study the possibility of setting up an advanced observatory in every Islamic State for the purpose of securing accurate astrological data for the unification of the calendar.

4. Reiterates its invitation to those Member States that have as yet not joined the Committee on the Unified Hijra Calendar to do so and to participate actively in its periodic meetings with a view to maximizing coordination among Islamic States as regards the unification of the beginning of lunar months and of Islamic Festivals.

RESOLUTION NO. 17/17-C

ON THE NARCOTICS CONTROL AND DRUG ABUSE

The Seventeenth *Islamic* Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban 1408H (21-25 March 1988),

Recalling Resolution No. 4/5-C(IS) of the Fifth Islamic Summit on Drug Abuse and Control;

Recalling also the Resolutions of the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers respectively on Drug Abuse and Narcotics Control;

Noting with satisfaction the encouraging response and participation of many countries including Muslim countries at the United Nations International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (ICDAIT) in June last year;

1. Urges Member States to support all efforts and programmes related to drugs, its abuse and trafficking being undertaken by the UN and its related agencies.
2. Calls upon Member States to increase further vigilance on the dangers posed by drug abuse and illicit trafficking and in this context take individual or collective efforts to utilize the tenets of Islam in prohibiting narcotics and creating aversion and repulsiveness towards the use of drugs.
3. Urges Member States to develop bilateral and regional cooperation in preventive education, the treatment and rehabilitation of drug abuses including religious counseling modalities emphasizing Islamic values.
4. Welcomes the offer made by the Government of Turkey to host the Expert Committee Meeting on Narcotics to be held in Istanbul, during October, 1988 to examine ways of promoting cooperation among Member States in combating the drug problem and urges Member States to actively participate at the said meeting.
5. Requests the General Secretariat to undertake a study on the general situation of drug abuse and illicit trafficking in Muslim countries with a view to sharing experiences and formulating specific programmes within the Muslim countries to combat drug. The study should be presented to the next ICFM.

RESOLUTION NO.18/17-C

ON THE ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY FUND AND ITS WAQF

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban, 1408H (21-25 March, 1988),

Recalling Resolution No. 315-C(IS) of the Fifth Islamic Summit (The Islamic Solidarity Session) held in Kuwait in 1407H (1987), which emphasized the importance of the Islamic Solidarity Fund and its objectives designed to strengthen the solidarity of the Islamic Ummah through the participation in religious, cultural, scientific and social programmes

whether in the OIC Member States or in favour of Muslim communities and minorities in non-Member States;

Noting with appreciation the accomplishments of the ISF during the last twelve years, and aware of the need to develop the potential of the ISF and its financial resources to enable to have a positive influence on the cultural structure of Islamic communities;

Noting with satisfaction the initiation of the ISF Waqf operations after finalizing arrangements for its foundation, and emphasizing capital, which would generate a regular return that would enable the ISF to finance its annual budget and thus ensure continuity in its noble mission.

Emphasizing its total commitment to the maintenance of this important institution which is a truly honourable symbol of Islamic solidarity;

Having taken note of the report submitted by the Chairman of the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund on the financial difficulties and obstacles besetting the efforts of the ISF to finance its budget and implement Its programmes for the last three years , In view of the depletion of Its resources, which brought to an end several of the scheduled activities;

1. Expresses sincere thanks and profound appreciation to those Member States which made generous and regular contributions to the Fund, and urges all Member States to make voluntary and regular contributions, each according to its capacity, to enable the fund to establish and implement its annual budget in the light of the foregoing.

2 Requests the Permanent Council of the Fund, in cooperation with the General Secretariat and the Board of Trustees of the Waqf, to organize periodic visits to Islamic countries in order to profound the lofty objectives of the Fund and its Waqfs, and to intensify the efforts in urging Islamic States, institutions and organizations, as well as individuals, to make voluntary contributions to the Fund and its Waqf.

3. Calls on all Member States to make donations, each according to its capacity, to the Waqf, and requests those States that have previously pledged contributions to the Waqf capital to promptly remit those contributions to make it possible to invest them as early as possible.

4. Entrusts the Permanent Council of the Fund, in cooperation with the General Secretariat, with the task of increasing the resources of the Fund and its Waqf by all possible means, such as organizing donation campaigns in Member States during the sacred month of Ramadan, it being the month of Islamic Solidarity, in full coordination with the competent authorities in Member States, the bodies supervising the donation campaign to be specified by these authorities.

5. Requests the Fund to continue to support the OIC subsidiary institutions and bodies, and thus provide important projects with further support, in parallel with other forms of assistance.

6. Approves the contents of the report submitted by the Chairman of the Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund.

7. Endorses the decision of the Permanent Council to approve the Closing Account for the Financial Year 1986-87 and the provisional budget of the Islamic Solidarity Fund for the Financial Year 1987-88.

8. Expresses thanks and appreciation to the Permanent Council, its Chairman, the Board of Trustees of the Waqf and its Chairman, as well as the Executive Management of the Fund, for their efforts to achieve the objectives of the Fund and its Waqf.

RESOLUTION NO.19/17-C

ON THE CULTURAL SITUATION IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban 1408H (21-25 March 1988),

Noting with great interest the cultural aspects of life in Islamic societies;

Conscious that the strengthening of solidarity and cooperation as envisaged by the OIC Charter can only be achieved through the study of the cultural realities of our Islamic world;
Desirous of assessing the overall achievement of its cultural institutions in the light of the general report;

Decides that it is necessary for all subsidiary cultural institutions of the OIC to submit a periodical report about the Islamic cultural situation relevant to its field of expertise to the Secretariat, which would in turn prepare the general report and forward it to the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs for consideration and study.